

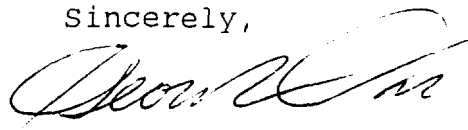
3. BPP is not the way to ensure reasonable rates for inmate calling.

R.I.D.O.C. is sensitive to the rates that inmate families pay for calls. It is important for the FCC to understand that correctional facilities can only contract with inmate phone providers that charge reasonable and sensible calling rates because, otherwise, the families will not accept the inmates' calls. Enactment of BPP will serve to frustrate and anger inmates in addition to depriving R.I.D.O.C. of the revenue necessary to pay for important inmate programs. Competition among providers is so great that any provider trying to charge unreasonable rates cannot survive.

I oppose BPP. I consider it a complex federal effort that would effectively strip me of my responsibility over the welfare of inmates, and would be a more complex, costly and ineffective way of handling rate monitoring.

Enactment of BPP will end inmate use of the telephone as far as I am concerned. If BPP is instituted, the danger to society of letting inmates control the collect calling system instead of the administration is just too great a threat to allow inmates access to telephones.

Sincerely,



George A. Vose, Jr.
Director
R.I. Department of Corrections
40 Howard Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920

RECEIVED

AUG 12 1994

LOREN C. ANDERSON
SHERIFF



111 EAST 11th
LAWRENCE, KANSAS 66044
PHONE (913) 841-0007

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
DONALD D. DALQUEST
UNDERSHERIFF

July 20, 1994

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CC Docket #92-77

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am writing to voice my concerns about the proposed Billed Party Preference regulation. The correctional facility inmate phone industry would be severely jeopardized by BPP, affecting inmates, their families and the criminal justice system as a whole. For this reason, we are asking that inmate calls be exempt from the proposed BPP regulation.

Over the past ten years, administrators of correctional facilities have been able to put into place a very effective system for allowing inmate phone calls. The right to choose our phone service provider has been key to our success. This service has always been delivered to us at very reasonable rates. What's more, inmate phone commissions have been a significant source of revenue for our facility and have helped us improve it dramatically. We use this revenue to fund various programs including: law enforcement education; inmate health, education and recreation; jail personnel safety; drug prevention and other community programs; family visitation etc.

Here are a few of my biggest concerns about Billed Party Preference:


- * It strips correctional facility administrators of the right to choose inmate phone providers.
- * Technology for BPP would reportedly cost upwards of \$1.5 billion, an expense that would have to be passed along to the consumer.
- * Without the authority to process calls, inmate phone providers would no longer have the revenue to provide the sophisticated phone systems used in prisons. The end result: fewer phones with fewer security features. Facilities would have to revert to the old ways of supervising each and every inmate call.

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- * The average length of stay in jail would increase because inmates would not have the phone privileges required to make arrangements for obtaining bond. This costs everyone!
- * Under BPP, correctional facilities would no longer have control over inmate calls, which means no call tracking or blocking. Inmates could conceivably harass judges, witnesses, jury members or even the victims of their crimes.
- * Without call control, facilities would be unable to control fraud problems currently handled by inmate phone providers.

For the above reasons, and countless others, we believe that THE COSTS OF BILLED PARTY PREFERENCE FOR INMATE CALLS FAR OUTWEIGH THE BENEFITS. If BPP does become regulation, we urge you to make inmate calls exempt. Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Loren C. Anderson".

Loren C. Anderson, Sheriff

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

COIS BYRD, SHERIFF



Sheriff

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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AUG 12 1994

P.O. BOX 512 • RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA 92502 • (909) 275-2400

July 19, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

DO NOT FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RE: Billed Party Preference; CC Docket Number 92-77

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

As a Chief Deputy of the Riverside County Sheriff's Department and the Jail Administrator of all corrections facilities within Riverside County, I am requesting that the Federal Communications Commission exclude local jails from the proposed "billed party preference" system for 0+ Inter LATA payphone traffic rules.

While there may be ways to prevent fraud under B.P.P., we would be losing our ability to closely monitor phone calls during investigations and would likely lose our ability to quickly block calls to protect victims and witnesses from intimidation and family and friends from unwanted calls and harassment. These issues are very important to me and the citizens of Riverside County.

Eliminating the 0+ commissions received currently would have the effect of creating a host of unfunded mandates. California jails have Inmate Welfare Funds which are by law to provide for programs, services and facilities for inmates. Telephone commissions are the primary, in some cases sole, source of revenue for the Inmate Welfare Fund. Many of these programs and services are now mandated by law and the courts, primarily the Federal courts. Elimination of commission revenues would force jails to tap already strapped budgets to fund these mandates.

The services and programs provided by the Inmate Welfare Fund includes Adult Education, GED programs, basic literacy training, job training, substance abuse, parenting, family counseling, religious services and many more. Even basics such as supplying indigent inmates with personal hygiene supplies and letter writing material are provided for by this fund.

These programs would cease, or have to be funded with tax dollars. Riverside County, as are most counties, is in difficult fiscal times, which simply means there are no tax dollars available.

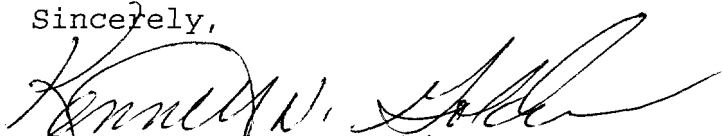
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Letter to Commissioner Hundt
July 19, 1994
Page 2

Before you make any decision, please stop and listen to the thousands of local jails, on behalf of their productive inmate programs, that will be dramatically impacted by your failure to exclude them from the B.P.P. System. Every State has different laws governing its jails. I can only speak for our California law and under them, failure to exclude jails would be devastating.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth N. Golden", written over a horizontal line.

KENNETH N. GOLDEN, Chief Deputy
Corrections Division

KNG:jb

cc: The Honorable Susan Ness
cc: The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
cc: The Honorable Andrew C. Barrett
cc: The Honorable James H. Quello

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AUG 12 1994

PASSAIC COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX
11 MARSHALL ST.
PATERSON, N.J. 07510

EDWIN ENGLEHARDT
SHERIFF

JOHN BONAZZI
CURTIS TAYLOR
R.J. ANDREANO
UNDERSHERIFF'S

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

FELIX GARCIA
DEPUTY WARDEN

GERARDO TORRES
WARDEN



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08/01/94

THE HONORABLE REED E. HUNDT, CHAIRMAN
FEDERAL COMMUNICATION COMMISSION
1919 M STREET NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

RE: CC DOCKET NO 92-77 OPPOSITION TO BILLED PARTY PREFERENCE

DEAR CHAIRMAN HUNDT:

WE ARE OPPOSED TO THE APPLICATION OF BILLED PARTY PREFERENCE
(BPP) AT INMATE FACILITIES.

WE HAVE ANALYZED THE SECURITY AND ADMINISTRATION NEEDS AT OUR FACILITY AND HAVE FOUND IT TO BE NECESSARY TO ROUTE INMATE CALLS FROM OUR FACILITY TO A SINGLE CARRIER THAT IS EQUIPPED TO HANDLE INMATE CALLS AND WITH WHOM WE HAVE A CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP. WE CANNOT ALLOW INMATES TO HAVE OPEN ACCESS TO THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK AND THE FREEDOM TO USE ANY CARRIER THEY PLEASE. BPP WILL TAKE AWAY OUR RIGHT TO COORDINATE INMATE CALLS THROUGH A CARRIER WE KNOW AND TRUST. INSTEAD, INMATE CALLS WILL BE ROUTED TO A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT CARRIERS, NONE OF WHOM WILL HAVE ANY OBLIGATION TO US, AND FEW THAT WILL BE TRAINED TO HANDLE INMATE CALLS.

WE HAVE ALSO FOUND IT NECESSARY TO INSTALL PHONE EQUIPMENT THAT IS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR INMATE CALLS. THIS EQUIPMENT HELPS PREVENT FRAUD, ABUSIVE CALLS, AND OTHER CRIMINAL ACTIVITY OVER THE TELEPHONE NETWORK. GIVEN THE CONSTANT BUDGETARY CONSTRAINTS THAT WE ARE UNDER, WE CANNOT AFFORD TO PROVIDE THIS EQUIPMENT WITHOUT THE HELP OF INMATE PHONE SERVICE PROVIDERS. BPP WOULD ALSO ELIMINATE THE REVENUE STREAM THAT FINANCES OUR INMATE PHONES. IF BPP IS APPLIED TO INMATE FACILITIES, THERE WILL BE NO WAY FOR US TO FINANCE THESE PHONES, NOR WILL THERE BE INMATE PHONE SERVICE PROVIDERS TO ASSIST US. WITHOUT INMATE PHONES, THE MORALE OF OUR INMATES WILL BE DEVASTATED. THE RESULTING INCREASE IN TENSION WILL MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR OUR STAFF TO MANAGE INMATES.

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THE HONORABLE REED E. HUNDT, CHAIRMAN

PAGE # 2

RE: CC DOCKET NO. 92-77 OPPOSITION TO BILLED PARTY PREFERENCE

FURTHERMORE, WE ARE SENSITIVE TO THE RATES INMATE FAMILIES PAY FOR CALLS. WE FULLY APPRECIATE THE FCC'S CONCERN IF SOME SHERIFFS DO NOT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROTECTING INMATE FAMILIES FROM ABUSIVE RATES. WE DO NOT AGREE WITH THE FCC THAT THE SOLUTION FOR THIS LACK OF RESPONSIBILITY IS BPP. THE PROPER AND MORE EFFECTIVE ACTION WOULD BE TO ADOPT RATE CEILINGS ON INMATE CALLS AND THEN LET SHERIFFS ENFORCE THESE RATE CEILINGS THROUGH THEIR CONTRACTS. INDEED WE BELIEVE THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF SHERIFFS ARE COMMITTED TO REQUIRING RATES THAT ARE FAIR AND REASONABLE.

IN SHORT BPP WOULD TAKE AWAY OUR ABILITY TO EMPLOY IMPORTANT SECURITY AND ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES THAT WE HAVE FOUND TO BE NECESSARY AT OUR FACILITY, ULTIMATELY REDUCING INMATE PHONE AVAILABILITY, WHICH IN TURN DECREASES THE EFFICIENCY OF OUR STAFF. WE URGE YOU TO NOT ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT INTERFERE WITH OUR ADMINISTRATIVE AND SECURITY DECISIONS--DECISIONS THAT ARE CLEARLY WITHIN OUR DISCRETION AND WHICH WE HAVE A PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE.

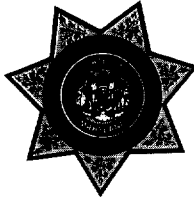
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Gerard Toure Warden
NAME/TITLE

Passaic County Jail
NAME OF CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

11 Sheriff's Plaza
ADDRESS
PAT. N.J. 07502

JAMES F. GARTLAND
SHERIFF



LT. CHARLES J. McDEVITT
DIRECTOR OF CORRECTIONS

RECEIVED

AUG 12 1994

Charles County Sheriff
BOX 189 - LA PLATA, MARYLAND 20646
DIVISION OF CORRECTIONS

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

July 25, 1994

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Chairman Hundt:

We are opposed to the application of Billed Party Preference (BPP) at inmate facilities.

We have analyzed the security and administration needs at our facility and have found it to be necessary to route inmate calls from our facility to a single carrier that is equipped to handle inmate calls and with whom we have a contractual relationship. We cannot allow inmates to have open access to the telecommunications network and the freedom to use any carrier please. BPP will take away our right to coordinate inmates calls through a carrier we know and trust. Instead, inmate calls will be routed to a number of different carriers, none of whom will have any obligation to us, and few that will be trained to handle inmate calls.

We have also found it necessary to install phone equipment that is specifically designed for inmate calls. This equipment helps prevent fraud, abusive calls and other criminal activity over the telephone network. Given the constant budgetary constraints that we are under, we cannot afford to provide this equipment without the help of inmate phone service providers. BPP would allow also eliminate the revenue stream that finances our inmate phones. If BPP is applied to inmate facilities, there will be no way for us to finance these phones, nor will there be inmate phone service providers to assist us. Without inmate phones, the morale of our inmates will be devastated. The resulting increase in tension will make it more difficult for our staff to manage inmates.

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Furthermore, we are sensitive to the rates inmate families pay for calls. We fully appreciate the FCC's concern if some Sheriffs do not take responsibility for protecting inmate families from abusive rates. We do not agree with the FCC that the solution for this lack of responsibility is BPP. The proper and more effective action would be to adopt rate ceilings on inmate calls and then let Sheriffs enforce these rate ceilings through their contracts. Indeed we believe the overwhelming majority of Sheriffs are committed to requiring rates that are fair and reasonable.

In short, BPP would take away our ability to employ important security and administrative measures that we have found to be necessary at our facility, ultimately reducing inmate phone availability, which in turn decreases the efficiency of our staff. We urge you to not adopt regulations that interfere with our administrative and security decisions -- decisions that are clearly within our discretion and which we have a public responsibility to make.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CJ McDevitt', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lt. Charles J. McDevitt, Director
Charles County Sheriff's Office - Corrections
P.O. Box 1430
La Plata, Maryland 20646

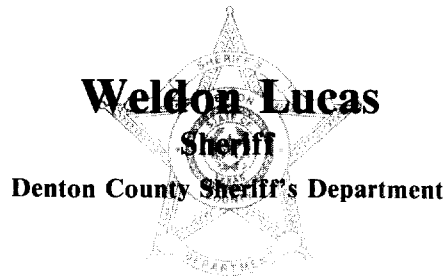
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AUG 1 2 1994

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

JUL 25 10 40 AM '94



July 21, 1994

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Billed Party Preference; CC Docket No. 92-77

Dear Chairman Hundt,

It has come to my attention that the FCC is considering the implementation of a "billed party preference" for 0+interLATA payphone traffic and for other types of operator-assisted interLATA traffic. If BPP is implemented, Inmate Phone Systems, as we know them today, will cease to exist.

The Denton County Sheriff's Department is strenuously opposed to BPP for inmate phone systems, the most important reason being the control over the calls generated by over 850 inmates in this correctional facility. This Administration is firmly committed to protecting law-abiding citizens' and especially victims' rights, and the phone system we currently have in use allows us to effectively control and practically eliminate call abuse and fraud by the inmates.

Inmate call abuse and fraud is a very real problem for the victims of crimes, judges, witnesses, and other elected officials, as well as the family, friends, and acquaintances of some of the inmates who do not wish to be harassed. A regular phone service will not be able to provide the immediate assistance that our specialized inmate phone service provides to eliminate these kinds of problems. Furthermore, these special requests will cost a great deal more from a regular service.

In addition to losing the ability to effectively control inmate calls, in these hard economic times our budget could not be expanded to include a regular phone service with the necessary equipment and manpower that would permit the supervision of inmate calls without cutting other budgetary items vital to operating our jail. Also, implementing BPP would eliminate the revenue-generating agreements that we have with the inmate phone services; revenue that augments our budget and enables us to provide important educational and rehabilitation programs for the inmates. Obviously, the adverse financial impact of having BPP would severely handicap inmate programs and jail operations.

We share the concern for providing reasonable rates for inmate phone service. Our

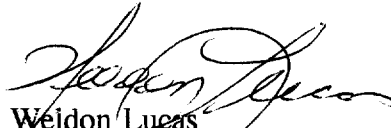
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existing contract specifies that the inmates pay no more than the standard GTE and AT&T rates. Billed Party Preference is not the answer to controlling phone costs; specifying "equivalent" rates in the bid package guarantees the inmates pay no more than anyone else for like service.

The disadvantages of BPP far outweigh the rate control this program would allegedly offer. Aside from the tremendous negative budgetary impact, the protection of private citizens from harassing phone calls and telephone fraud is at stake with the implementation of BPP. We vigorously oppose this program, and fervently hope that it is not implemented.

Sincerely,



Weldon Lucas
Sheriff, Denton County

WGL/hm

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AUG 12 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

QUICK STOP

QUICK STOP
FOOD MART, INC.

Post Office Box 2427 • Fayetteville, North Carolina 28302 • (910) 483-9021

July 11, 1994

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

JUL 13 3 32 PM '94

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW - Room 814
Washington D.C. 20554

RE: Billed Party Reference/CC Docket No. 92-77

Dear Chairman Hundt:

This letter is to express our opposition to the Federal Communications Commission's proposal to implement the Billed Party Preference (BPP) throughout the telephone system. My responsibilities at Quick Stop Food Mart, Inc. include the administration of our telecommunications facilities including the pay telephone and other telephone systems at our various facilities. We are a convenience store chain of approximately 75 stores located throughout North & South Carolina. We currently provide pay telephone services at each of these locations. Billed Party Preference will dramatically affect our ability to provide the public with these needed services.

The commission revenues that Quick Stop receives helps justify our investment in the pay telephone operation at our various locations. BPP will stop this critical source of funding; which, without this revenue stream, we cannot provide the quality or level of service we currently provide. This is a fundamental part of the public communications industry. Payphone locations provide a very beneficial service to the public but there must be an adequate return to property owners to maintain this service.

We have made sure that all pay telephones at our facilities are programmed to be in compliance with the Telephone Operator Consumer Services Improvement Act of 1990 (TOCSIA) to allow callers to access their carrier of choice. We support this action. However, BPP is clearly another way of achieving the same result which has already been accomplished. The only difference is the devastating result that BPP would have on pay phone providers.

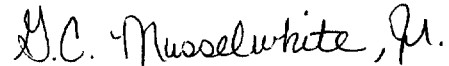
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The Honorable Reed E. Hundt
July 11, 1994
Page 2

The cost of implementing BPP will be incredible and will be an ongoing burden plus the timeliness of calling would be affected. Fraud opportunities will be tremendous.

BPP is a proposal that has too many flaws to accomplish the purpose for which it is intended. We respectfully request that the Federal Communication Commission reject the Billed Party Preference proposal. Your consideration in this important matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "G.C. Musselwhite, Jr.".

G. C. Musselwhite, Jr.
Vice-President/Controller

GCM,Jr/stw

cc: The Honorable James H. Quello
The Honorable Andrew C. Barrett
The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
The Honorable Susan Ness

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AUG 12 1994

L. Wayne Middleton, Sheriff

Phone: 804-580-5221

Fax: 804-580-5723



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

P. O. Box 310

Heathsville, Virginia 22473

Northumberland County

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

July 22, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Chairman Hundt:

We are opposed to the application of Billed Party Preference (BPP) at inmate facilities.

We have analyzed the security and administration needs at our facility and have found it to be necessary to route inmate calls from our facility to a single carrier that is equipped to handle inmate calls and with whom we have a contractual relationship. We cannot allow inmates to have open access to the telecommunications network and the freedom to use any carrier they please. BPP will take away our right to coordinate inmate calls through a carrier we know and trust. Instead, inmate calls will be routed to a number of different carriers, none of whom will have any obligation to us, and few that will be trained to handle inmate calls.

We have also found it necessary to install phone equipment that is specifically designed for inmate calls. This equipment helps prevent fraud, abusive calls, and other criminal activity over the telephone network. Given the constant budgetary constraints that we are under, we cannot afford to provide this equipment without the help of inmate phone service providers to assist us. Without inmate phones, the morale of our inmates will be devastated. The resulting increase in tension will make it more difficult for our staff to manage inmates.

Furthermore, we are sensitive to the rates inmate families pay for calls. We fully appreciate the FCC's concern if some Sheriffs do not take responsibility for protecting inmate families from abusive rates. We do not agree with the FCC that the solution for this lack of responsibility is BPP. The proper and more effective action would be to adopt rate ceilings on inmate calls and then let Sheriffs enforce these rate ceilings through their contracts. Indeed we believe the overwhelming majority of

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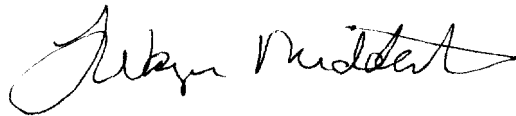
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of Sheriffs are committed to requiring rates that are fair and reasonable.

In short, BPP would take away our ability to employ important security and administrative measures that we have found to be necessary at our facility, ultimately reducing inmate phone availability, which in turn decreases the efficiency of our staff. We urge you to not adopt regulations that interfere with our administrative and security decisions - decisions that are clearly within our discretion and which we have a public responsibility to make.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Wayne Middleton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

L. Wayne Middleton
Sheriff

Northumberland County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 310
Heathsville, Va. 22473

LWM/vca

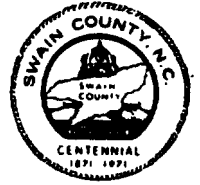
cc: The Honorable James H. Quello
The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
The Honorable Andrew C. Barrett
The Honorable Susan Ness



William D. Lewis

SHERIFF, SWAIN COUNTY
P.O. BOX 1398
BRYSON CITY, N.C. 28713
704/488-2197
July 22, 1994

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AUG 12 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re; CC Docket No 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Chairman Hundt:

We are opposed to the application of Billed Party Preference (BPP) at inmate facilities.

We have analyzed the security and administration needs at our facility and have found it to be necessary to route inmate calls from our facility to a single carrier that is equipped to handle inmate calls and with whom we have a contractual relationship. We cannot allow inmates to have open access to the telecommunications network and the freedom to use any carrier they please. BPP will take away our right to coordinate inmate calls through a carrier we know and trust. Instead inmate calls will be routed to a number of different carriers, none of whom will have any obligation to us, and few that will be trained to handle inmate calls.

We have also found it necessary to install phone equipment that is specifically designed for inmate calls. This equipment helps prevent fraud, abusive calls, and other criminal activity over the telephone network. Given the constant budgetary constraints that we are under, we cannot afford to provide this equipment without the help of inmate phone service providers. BPP would also eliminate the revenue stream that finances our inmate phones. If BPP is applied to inmate facilities, there will be no way for us to finance these phones, nor will there be inmate phone service providers to assist us. Without inmate phones, the moral of our inmates will be devastated. The resulting increase in tension will make it more difficult for our staff to manage inmates.


Further, we are sensitive to the rates inmates families pay for calls. We fully appreciate the FCC's concern if some Sheriffs do not take responsibility for protection inmate families from abusive rates. We do not agree with the FCC that the solution for this lack of responsibility is BPP. The proper and more effective action would be to adopt rate ceilings on inmate calls and then let Sheriffs enforce these rate ceilings through their contracts. Indeed we believe the overwhelming majority of Sheriffs are committed to requiring rates that are fair and reasonable.

In short, BPP would take away our ability to employ important security and administration measures that we have found to be necessary at our facility, ultimately reducing inmate phone availability, which in turn decreases the efficiency of our staff.

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We urge you to not adopt regulations that interfere with our administrative and security decisions--decisions that are clearly within our descretion and which we have a public responsbility to make.

Respectfully submitted,



Bill Lewis, Sheriff

Swain County Jail

P. O. Box 1398, Bryson City, N.C. 28713



Kansas Sheriffs Association

P.O. Box 1853
Salina, Kansas 67402-1853

913-827-2222

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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President
Sheriff Loren W. Youngers
Morton County

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Sheriff Robert Odell
Cowley County

Second Vice President
Sheriff Robert Bayack
Kingman County

Secretary-Treasurer
Sheriff Darrell Wilson
Saline County

Sgt.-at-Arms
Sheriff Larry Leslie
Reno County

July 21, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20554

Re: Billed Party Preference
CC Docket 92-77

Dear Chairman:

I am Sheriff of Saline County, Kansas and also serve as Secretary/Treasurer of the Kansas Sheriffs Association. I currently operate a 62 bed detention facility and a 25 bed satellite detention facility. Saline County is presently constructing a new 152 bed detention facility. It is the opinion of Kansas Sheriffs that Billed Party Preference would greatly undermine the security and penological interests of jail operations.

Telephone call abuse inside correctional facilities is a serious issue, especially in a pre-trial facility where attempts to coerce witnesses and victims into not testifying are a common occurrence. If Billed Party Preference were to include jails and correctional facilities, additional staff would have to be requested in order to provide security and supervision of inmate placed telephone calls. An inmate making a long distance call through a carrier who has chosen not to cooperate with our local provider could have that call re-routed back, without detection, to a victim and/or witness.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Thomas County

Sheriff Jack Mendenhall
Rush County

Sheriff William L. Deppish
Geary County

Sheriff Daniel R. Morgan
Miami County

Sheriff James Jarboe
Kearny County

Sheriff Arlyn Leaming
Ford County

Sheriff Larry Leslie
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Sheriff Janet L. Lee
Elk County

ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

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Lane County

Sheriff Gary O'Brien
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Douglas County

Sheriff Bill Kramer
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Sheriff Jene Allen
Comanche County

Sheriff David A. Williams
Butler County

Sheriff Rick E. Wingate
Neosho County

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Kansas Sheriffs Association

P.O. Box 1853
Salina, Kansas 67402-1853

913-827-2222

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Morton County

First Vice President
Sheriff Robert Odell
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Douglas County

Sheriff Bill Kramer
Gray County

Sheriff Jene Allen
Comanche County

Sheriff David A. Williams
Butler County

Sheriff Rick E. Wingate
Neosho County

It is recommended that the requested exemption for jails and prisons be included as part of Billed Party Preference. If not, there are citizens throughout the country who would suffer every day by receiving threatening and unwanted calls.

Respectfully yours,

Darrell Wilson
Saline County Sheriff
Secretary/Treasurer
Kansas Sheriffs Association

DW/bjh

cc: The Honorable James H. Quello
The Honorable Andrew C. Barrett
The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
The Honorable Susan Ness

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AUG 12 1994

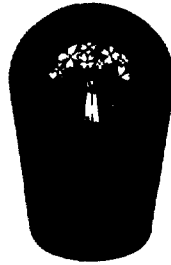
VIRGINIA BEACH SHERIFF'S OFFICE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

JUL 28 3 28 PM '94

FRANK DREW
Sheriff

JOSEPH P. VITALE
Undersheriff



2501 JAMES MADISON BLVD.
P. O. BOX 6098
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23456-9073
PHONE (804) 427-4555
FAX (804) 427-2606

July 22, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Billed Party Preference; CC Docket No. 92-77

Dear Mr. Hundt:

I would like to take this opportunity to voice my opposition to Billed Party Preference (BPP) for inmate telephones. BPP will eliminate all inmate phone service commissions and the fraud control features currently provided by our inmate phone service. The mere thought that as a jail administrator, I would not be able to control how inmate calls are routed, is appalling. The thought that an inmate could harass judges, witnesses, jury members or victims is an atrocity.

In the Virginia Beach Correctional Center, I have on site maintenance assigned to keep the inmate telephones in operating condition at all times. This prevents the delay of inmates making their telephone calls to family members, clergy, attorneys or friends. We have no down time on this service to our inmates, a statement I am sure I would not be able to make if service was as proposed by BPP. I oppose any federal interference with a Sheriff's ability to manage and control the inmates' calling.

In these days of budget cut-backs and financial constraints, it would be impossible for me to operate this facility as it is currently being operated, without funds generated by the inmate phone system. Recreation equipment, library books, educational and religious programs would also suffer. The revenue-sharing arrangements with our inmate phone provider have been an innovative

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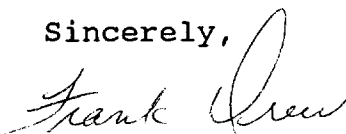
and effective means of financing important inmate needs. At a time of fiscal crisis in government, the FCC should not be cutting off a critical source of revenue that is used to benefit the inmates of this facility.

The rates provided by my inmate phone provider are reasonable. No complaints have been received in regard to the fees associated with our current system.

In closing, I believe that the responsibility for ensuring that the provider charges reasonable rates lies with facility administrators, who are in the best position to evaluate the circumstances of particular facilities. I have never known of a case where a problem was solved by adding another level of bureaucracy.

Thank you for your consideration and I would gladly show you through a facility where the present inmate telephone system works for the inmates.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Frank Drew".

Frank Drew

CC: The Honorable James H. Quello
The Honorable Andrew C. Barrett
The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
The Honorable Susan Ness
The Honorable Charles R. Robb
The Honorable Owen Pickett
Mr. John Jones
The Honorable James Dunning

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STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

AUG 12 1994

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER
GOVERNORMEI VIN A. STEINBERG
LT. GOVERNORBISHOP L. ROBINSON
SECRETARYDIVISION OF CORRECTION
SUITE 311, PLAZA OFFICE CENTER
6776 REISTERSTOWN ROAD
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21215-2342
(410) 784-4100
TTY FOR THE DEAF: 486-0677DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
RICHARD A. LANHAM, SR.
COMMISSIONERMELANIE C. PEREIRA
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: July 27, 1994

FROM: Commissioner Richard A. Lanham, Sr.
Maryland Division of Correction
FAX Number 1-410-764-4182TO: Chairman Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
FAX Number 1-202-632-0163

SUBJECT: Billed Party Preference; CC Docket No. 92-77

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STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

AUG 12 1994

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER
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LT. GOVERNORBISHOP L. ROBINSON
SECRETARYDIVISION OF CORRECTION
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6776 REISTERSTOWN ROAD
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21215-2342
(410) 764-4100
TTY FOR THE DEAF: 486-0877
July 25, 1994FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
RICHARD A. LANHAM, SR.
COMMISSIONERMELANIE C. PEREIRA
DEPUTY COMMISSIONERThe Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20554

Re: Billed Party Preference; CC Docket No. 92-77

Dear Mr. Hundt:

Inmate telephone systems should not be subject to Billed Party Preference.

The proposed Billed Party Preference (BPP) means that instead of dealing with one inmate phone service provider that controls and processes all calls from a facility, the inmate calls would be routed over any number of different carriers. BPP will eliminate security controls currently in place and open up the telephone network to excessive fraud. BPP would limit corrections officials authority to control routing of inmate telephone calls, to limit the types of calls, to control whether the calls are handled on an automated basis only or must go to live operators who could be manipulated to place calls the prisoner should not make.

We need a provider who will respond to our needs and will work with us to address the special problems that arise in the inmate environment. We cannot afford to have this control taken away and have prisoner calls routed to just any long distance carrier- and certainly not to a carrier over whom we have no authority or control. Institutional and public safety demand that we maintain control over prisoners access to long distance carriers.

Prison phone service should not be subject to Billed Party Preference. I urge you to reverse the current FCC approval of BPP and preserve the inmate phone service currently utilized in Maryland facilities.

I appreciate your consideration of my comments on this important issue, and I am available to speak with you or your staff if you have questions or need additional information. I may be reached at (410) 764-4186.

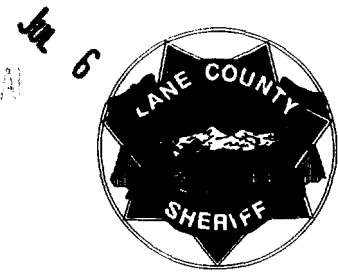
Sincerely,


Richard A. Lanham Sr.
Commissioner

June 30, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

DO NOT DESTROY



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Re: Billed Party Preference; CC Docket No. 92-77

AUG 12 1994

Dear Mr. Hunt:

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

I am writing to express the concerns of my organization regarding the Billed Party Preference proposal currently being considered by the Federal Communications Commission. My concern is specifically directed to application of Billed Party Preference to telephones that are provided for use by inmates of correctional facilities.

As I am sure you are well aware, recent developments in the telephone industry have provided opportunities for correctional facilities to offer much greater telephone access to inmates, have enhanced important security features and have allowed us to broaden our rehabilitative offerings even in the face of declining public revenues.

I believe that I have a reasonable understanding of the public service aspects of the Billed Party Preference proposal and assure you that I share the interest in minimizing costs to people receiving calls from our facilities. In screening proposals for inmate telephone service, we have made it clear to potential vendors the importance of providing service at or below the rates charged by the regulated carriers. Proposers who promise high commissions coupled with high user fees simply are not viable candidates for our business. We have no quarrel with any proposal that causes all correctional vendors to comply with FCC and local intralatta regulated rates.

The Billed Party Preference proposal, as I understand it, would actually be detrimental to the interests of our inmates, their families and of our community. By working closely with our service suppliers, we have been able to provide inmates with unprecedented access to telephones while also minimizing the inherent security concerns that had historically been so troublesome. The ability to intervene in and block harassing calls has been of significant relief to victims and automated call reports have been valuable in several criminal investigations. In the final analysis, the inmate telephone system has actually evolved into an enhancement of our security operations rather than a source of problems. The threat of losing these tools does not seem much like progress.

The ability to generate commissions has never been our primary concern in providing enhanced inmate telephone services. I feel, though, that it is important to point out that it is precisely those commissions that allow us to provide our very successful educational programs. Basic education, GED, English as a second language and non-violent conflict resolution classes are all fully supported by telephone revenues, all of which is deposited in an account that is dedicated

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LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Adult Corrections Division

PHONE (503) 683-3872
FAX (503) 465-2307

to inmate welfare items. Other services that are at least partially funded by telephone revenue include library purchases, recreational equipment, self-help literature and commissary subsidy for indigent inmates. Given our local funding base, it is a virtual certainty that at least the educational programs as we know them will cease without the support of telephone revenues.

I am sure that the current marketplace provides opportunities for excessive rates and for some degree of exploitation by less than professional correctional administrators. The fact is that any system can be abused by a few. More important is that the inmate telephone industry, operating under the current regulatory scheme without Billed Party Preference, offers inmates the opportunity to enjoy greater access to their families, provides facility administrators with important security tools and can support a vast array of treatment opportunities and services for inmates that would otherwise be unavailable.

I urge you and your commission to carefully weigh these issues as you consider the Billed Party Preference proposal. It may well be that some level of regulation is appropriate to control excesses and abuses but, from the perspective of responsible correctional administration, the proposed solution may well be worse than the problem it is designed to solve.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel P. Heuvel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Daniel" and last name "Heuvel" clearly legible.

Daniel P. Heuvel, Lieutenant
Lane County Sheriff's Office
Adult Corrections Division

cc: The Honorable Andrew C. Barrett
The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
The Honorable Susan Ness
The Honorable James H. Quello
Sheriff Robert McManus
Captain Benjamin Sunderland